

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 1492 – HB 1653

February 4, 2014

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Exempts certain companies and persons that sell emergency lights and sirens to public safety and law enforcement agencies from the prohibitions on the operation, installation, or use of such warning devices under certain specified conditions. Creates a Class A misdemeanor for persons committing the offense of criminal impersonation while pretending to be a firefighter, medical fire responder, paramedic, emergency medical technician, or any other first responder, while operating a motor vehicle as a person that actually sells emergency equipment to public safety and law enforcement agencies.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (012084): Adds clarifying language to the original bill stating that nothing in the bill as amended shall be construed to permit the operator of an emergency equipment company vehicle from operating any lighting equipment on such vehicles while the vehicle is on a public road, whether in motion or stationary.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- According to the Department of Safety and Homeland Security (DOS), additional training would be necessary to inform highway patrol officers of this exemption; however, any additional training for the officers would be included within normally-scheduled in-service training at no additional cost.
- Based on the response by DOS, it is estimated that local law enforcement entities could also inform their respective officers at normally-scheduled in-service training at no additional cost.

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- There will not be a sufficient number of Class A misdemeanor prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/rnc